

REMARKS

Summary

This Amendment is responsive to the final Office Action mailed on May 17, 2005. Claim 1 is amended. Claims 25 and 26 are new. Claims 1-26 are pending.

Claims 15 and 17-24 are allowed.

As a preliminary matter, Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the courteous and productive telephone interview held on July 18, 2005, the details of which are set forth below.

Claims 1-6, 8-11, 13, 14, and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Arnaud (US 5,473,227).

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arnaud.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Arnaud in view of Hanner (US 4,479,079).

Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections in view of the amended claims and the following comments.

Summary of July 18, 2005 Telephone Interview With Examiner

Applicant acknowledges receipt of the Interview Summary mailed by the Examiner on July 22, 2005. Applicant agrees with the Examiner's summary of the July 18, 2005 telephone interview regarding the discussion of the differences between Applicant's claims and the disclosure of Arnaud, and the proposed claim amendments.

Claim 1 is amended herein along the lines discussed with the Examiner during the telephone interview. Namely, claim 1 is amended to clarify the arrangement of the sliding contacts and the windings of the present invention as discussed with the Examiner. Claim 1 now specifies that each of the windings is commutatively arranged between one of the sliding contacts and a next following sliding contact. This arrangement is shown, for example, in Applicant's Figure 1, where winding M1 is arranged between sliding contact 22 and the next following sliding contact 21, and winding M2 is arranged between sliding contact 21 and the next

following sliding contact 23. Windings M4 and M3 are similarly arranged between sliding contacts 23 and 24 and sliding contacts 24 and 22, respectively. Amended claim 1 specifies that the windings are commutatively arranged between the windings, which denotes the fact that the windings are capable of changing position with respect to the sliding contacts: for example, in Figure 1, winding M1 is shown as being arranged between sliding contacts 21 and 22; however, upon rotation of the motor MO, the winding M1 may become arranged between sliding contacts 21 and 23, with the other windings M2, M3, and M4 becoming similarly associated with a different pair of windings (see, e.g., Applicant's specification, page 16, lines 1-7).

Claim 1 is further amended to specify that the power feed is provided to the windings via the sliding contacts.

As discussed with the Examiner, Arnaud does not disclose the features of Amended claim 1. In Arnaud, the windings E1, E2, E3, and E4 are arranged quite differently than the arrangement now claimed by Applicant. For example, winding E1 of Arnaud is arranged between contact b5 and contact b7, which is separate from contact b5 by contact b6. Therefore, winding E1 of Arnaud is not arranged between one of the sliding contacts and a next following sliding contact (if that were the case, winding E1 would need to be connected between contacts b5 and b6 of Arnaud).

In addition, as discussed with the Examiner, in Arnaud the power is fed directly to the windings E1, E2, E3, and E4, as is shown in Figure 2. In contrast, with Applicant's amended claim 1, power is fed to the windings via the sliding contacts.

New claims 25 and 26 specify arrangements of the sliding contacts and windings which are similar to that of amended claim 1. In addition, like amended claim 1, new claims 25 and 26 specify that the power is fed to the windings via the sliding contacts. Accordingly, Arnaud does not disclose or remotely suggest the features of new claims 25 and 26.

During the telephone interview, the Examiner indicated that amendments along the lines of those made to claim 1 would serve to distinguish the present invention over the Arnaud reference.

As Arnaud does not disclose each and every element of the invention as claimed, the

rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) are believed to be improper, and withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. See *Akamai Technologies Inc. v. Cable & Wireless Internet Services Inc.*, 68 USPQ2d 1186 (CA FC 2003), and cases cited therein.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention is not anticipated by and would not have been obvious to one skilled in the art in view of Arnaud, taken alone or in combination with any of the other prior art of record.

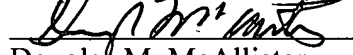
Further remarks regarding the asserted relationship between Applicant's claims and the prior art are not deemed necessary, in view of the amended claims and the foregoing discussion. Applicant's silence as to any of the Examiner's comments is not indicative of an acquiescence to the stated grounds of rejection.

Withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S. C. § 103(a) is therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider this application, allow each of the pending claims and to pass this application on to an early issue. If there are any remaining issues that need to be addressed in order to place this application into condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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